finger base plate, the finger base plate including a plurality of electrical contacts, wherein the electrical contacts are fixed relative to the body; wherein movement of the finger switch plate relative to the finger base plate causes the finger switch plate to selectively interact with the electrical contacts on the finger base plate.

~~27.~~ (First Amended) The device of claim [23] 24 wherein the electronic means includes logic converting means for converting movement of individual quadrant switches to movement of a cursor on a display peripheral, wherein the distance of movement of the cursor varies according to the degree of thumb pressure on the quadrant switch and duration of contact.

~~29.~~ (First Amended) A control mechanism comprising:

a display peripheral including a set of choices and a cursor, each choice having a set of sub-choices from which a selection of one or more sub-choices is desired, the cursor being movable between the choices and the sub-choices; and

a control device including a multiple function, thumb switch, the thumb switch including a center switch and an annular switch substantially surrounding the center switch, the annular switch being adapted to effect movement of the cursor between the plurality of choices and sub-choices and the center switch being adapted to effect selection of one of the choices and sub-choices identified by the cursor, wherein the annular switch is adapted to operate independently of the center switch.

~~33.~~ (First Amended) A control mechanism adapted to be used with a device which utilizes a computer, the control mechanism comprising:

a display peripheral for the computer, the display peripheral including a plurality of choices, at least one of the choices including a plurality of sub-choices,

the display peripheral also including a cursor adapted to be moved between the choices and sub-choices; and

a remote control device including: (i) a body adapted to be held by a human hand, the body having a top side and a bottom side; (ii) a multiple function thumb switch positioned proximate to the top side, the thumb switch being adapted to be activated by a human thumb to activate the multiple functions of the thumb switch without physically separating the thumb from the thumb switch; (iii) an index finger switch positioned on the bottom side, the finger switch being adapted to be operated by sliding motion of index finger; (iv) an electronic means secured to the body, the electronic means converting the thumb and index finger switch activations to a signal; and (v) transmitting means adapted to transmit the signal from the electronic means.

34. (First Amended) The control mechanism of claim 33 comprising:

a first data file containing the selection choice data;

a first function means for maintenance of logic state based on sequence of the switch activations and a second function means for maintenance of a cursor's movement based on the [annular] switch activations; and

a second data file containing operating modes of an operating system, wherein each choice data from the first data file has a corresponding operating mode in the second data file, whereby the programmable logic enabling the display of a selection screen populated with selection choice data from the first data file, enabling selection of a choice from the selection screen, enabling the corresponding operating mode identified in the second data file to be invoked.

36. (First Amended) The control mechanism of claim ~~33~~, wherein the annular switch controls cursor rate and duration of movement among the choices and sub-choices, and the center switch identifies the selection and wherein the annular switch is adapted to operate independently of the center switch.

Please cancel claims 7-14 without prejudice.

Please add new claims 37 and 38 as follows:

37. The remote control device of claim 23, wherein the thumb switch includes a center switch an annular switch which surrounds the center switch, and the annular switch being adapted to operate independently from the center switch.

38. The device of claim 37 wherein the annular switch includes a thumb base plate having a plurality of spaced apart electrical contacts and a thumb switch plate which is adapted to move relative to the thumb base plate, wherein the thumb switch plate selectively contacts one of the electrical contacts upon movement of the thumb switch plate relative to the thumb base plate and the electrical contacts are fixed relative to the body.

REMARKS

Typographical errors have been corrected in the specification.

Claims 23-38 are pending in the above-captioned Patent Application after this Amendment. Claims 23-36 have been rejected. The drawings and specification have been objected to as containing informalities. Accordingly, claims 24, 25, 26, 27, 29, 33, 34, and 36 and the specification have been amended to overcome the formal and substantive grounds of rejection and objection.

Specifically, claims 24, 29, and 36 have been amended to recite that the annular switch is adapted to operate independently from the center switch. Support for this